

Claims:

- 1) A particulate composition comprising;
 - a) at least 50% of dioleoyl phosphatidyl ethanolamine (DOPE); and
 - b) 1 to 50% of Polysorbate 80 (P80),

wherein all parts are by weight relative to the sum of the weights of a+b and wherein the composition comprises non-lamellar particles or forms non-lamellar particles when contacted with an aqueous fluid.

 - 2) A particulate composition comprising an amphiphilic carrier formulation consisting of;
 - a) at least 50% of dioleoyl phosphatidyl ethanolamine (DOPE);
 - b) 1 to 50% of Polysorbate 80 (P80);
 - c) optionally a solvent;

wherein all parts are by weight relative to the sum of the weights of a+b and wherein the composition comprises non-lamellar particles or forms non-lamellar particles when contacted with an aqueous fluid and wherein the carrier formulation exhibits no acute toxicity in rats at a level of up to at least 1000 mg of components a+b per kg of subject.

 - 3) A particulate composition comprising an amphiphilic carrier formulation consisting of;
 - a) at least 50% of dioleoyl phosphatidyl ethanolamine (DOPE);
 - b) 1 to 50% of Polysorbate 80 (P80);
 - c) optionally a solvent;

wherein all parts are by weight relative to the sum of the weights of a+b and wherein the composition comprises non-lamellar particles or forms non-lamellar particles when contacted with an aqueous fluid and wherein the carrier formulation

exibits no pyrogenicity when dosed parenterally in rabbits at a level of up to at least 5 ml of a 5% dispersion of components a+b per kg of subject.

- 4) A composition as claimed in any of claims 1 to 3 additionally comprising at least one active agent.
- 5) A composition as climed in any of cliams 1 to 4 comprising at least 50% non-lamellar particles.
- 6) A composition as climed in any of claims 1 to 4 which forms at least 50% non-lamellar particles upon contact with an aqueous fluid.
- 7) A composition as climed in claim 6 wherein said aqueous fluid is a body fluid.
- 8) A composition as climed in any of claims 1 to 7 wherein said particles have an average particle size of 10 to 150 µm.
- 9) A composition as climed in any of claims 1 to 7 wherein said particles are colloidal.
- 10) A composition as climed in claim 9 wherein said particles are stable in terms of phase behaviour and particle size to storage at room temperature for at least 10 days.
- 11) A composition as claimed in any of claims 1 to 10 in the form of a dry powder.
- 12) A pharmaceutical formulation comprising a composition as claimed in any of claims 1 to 11.
- 13) A formulation as climed in claim 12 further comprising at least one pharmaceutically tollerable carrier or excipient.